

August 6, 2017

**THIS WEEK**

August 6 - 13, 2017

Saturday, August 5th, 2017

*Vigil of the Transfiguration of the Lord (white)*

4:30pm Parishioners of Sts. Joachim & Ann

Sunday, August 6th - *The Transfiguration of the Lord (white)*

9am Jonathan & Manuela Boulton & family

11am ☩☩ Ardeth Wood

1pm Josephine Brownlee & family

\*Coffee downstairs after the 9am and 1pm Masses.

\*2:30 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until

4:00 p.m. Vespers and Benediction.

**Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time**

Monday, August 7th - 12noon - *Ferial (green)*

Intention: Our Canadian Military

\*No Queen of Peace Rosary Prayer Group tonight.

Tuesday, August 8th - 12noon - *St. Dominic (white)*

Intention: Sebastian Schigas

Wed., Aug. 9th - 12noon - *St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (red)*

Intention: ☩☩ Keith Winsor

\*No RCIA/Basics of the Faith: The Summer Edition this week.

Thursday, August 10th - 12noon - *St. Lawrence (red)*

Intention: ☩☩ Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, August 11th - 9am - *Solemnity of the Dedication of the Parish Church of Sts. Joachim & Ann (white), also St. Clare*

Intention: Madeline Roach

\*9:30 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until

1:00 p.m. Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament.

Saturday, Aug. 12th - 9am - *St. Jane Frances de Chantal (white)*

also *Our Lady's Saturday*

Intention: ☩☩ Catherine Debries

4:30pm *Vigil of the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (green)*

Intention: ☩☩ Pauline P.Y. Cheung

Sunday, August 13th - *19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (OF) (green)*

9am CWL members, living & deceased

11am Parishioners of Sts. Joachim & Ann

*10th Sunday after Pentecost (EF) (green)*

1pm Amanda Paller & Maria Broskey & family

**LET US PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS & SICK PARISHIONERS:**

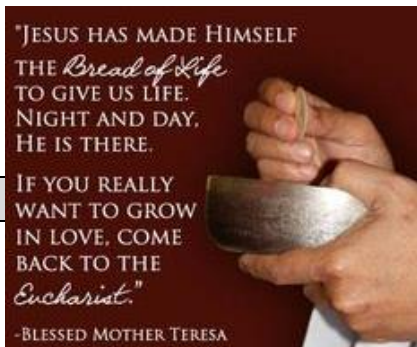
Clovis Amado, Connor Auton, Mary Barnes, Beric Bason, Anita Beauvillier, Catherine Boetzkes, Brenda Bojczuk, John Boulton, Emily Braun, Marie & Joe Breier, Verna Choboter, Elizabeth Chrobak, Marion Davenport, Rita Dayne, Mary Emery, Gordon Gillion, Rusty Harper, Dr. Coleman & Marlene Hill, Grace Hogeterp, Rita Humber, Casey Lute, Frank & Valerie MacCarthy, Patrick McCaffrey, Len McKenzie, Tom McLoughlin, Catherine Nash, Genny Nowak, Theresa Nowak, John Nunes, Winnie Nunes, Eileen & Tom Petras, Marie-Claude Pimenta, Andy Polfiet, Dorothy Reynolds, Lance Ryan, Veronica Simon, Anne Marie Smith, Raymond & Simonne Smith, Tom Spring, Mark Stockbrocks, Mel Thomas, Leonard (Jack) Tornquist, Kathleen Vadeboncoeur, Bert Weismiller, and David Zieba.

HandyDART: Call (604) 575-6600

**SECOND COLLECTION** next weekend, August 12/13 is for those affected by the BC WILDFIRES. Please use a "Special Collection" envelope.

**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

**"This is my Son, the Beloved; with Him I am well pleased; listen to Him!"**



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**SUNDAYS:** Adoration begins at 2:30pm and concludes with Vespers at 4pm, followed by Benediction.

**FRIDAYS:** Adoration begins at 9:30am and concludes with Benediction at 1pm.

**RCIA/BASICS OF THE FAITH**

Summer Edition: Continues on Wednesday, August 16 at 6pm

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

On the 2nd Sunday of each month our council has requested a Mass for CWL members, both living & deceased. Members will be responsible on those Sundays for bringing up the gifts and taking up the collection. If, as a member, you would like to be involved please let us know. All members are asked to wear a CWL scarf to raise awareness - scarves will be available in the vestibule prior to Mass. Next Sunday, August 13th, our CWL Mass will be at 9am.

**PROJECT ADVANCE 2017**



Project Advance is now underway! To make a donation, please place an envelope, clearly marked "Project Advance" into the collection basket, visit the parish office during office hours, mail your pledge card to the office; or donate online at:

[www.projectadvance.ca](http://www.projectadvance.ca)

**We sincerely thank the 35 families who have donated**

**\$25,720 to Project Advance this year!**

**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

**FATIMA CENTENARY ROSARY DEVOTIONS**  
Sunday, August 13th at 7pm

**Catechism/PREP Registration - Wed., Sept. 6th**

**KofC PANCAKE BREAKFAST - Sunday, Sept. 17**

**FATIMA CENTENARY ROSARY DEVOTIONS**  
continue on the 13th of each month until Oct. 13th

**NOTA BENE**

Holy Mass will be celebrated at 12noon this Monday to Thursday, August 7-10, while Fr. Ashley attends a Canon Law Conference in Lacrosse, WI. We sincerely thank Fr. Vincent Hawkswell for kindly filling in!

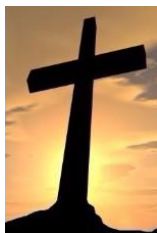
## ANNUAL MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE GROTTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES



Come to Fraser River Heritage Park, 7494 Mary Street, Mission, to pray and celebrate in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes on **Saturday, August 19**, from 10am to 4pm. Confessions begin at 10am, celebration of the Eucharist at 1pm by Bishop Emeritus of Kamloops David Monroe. After Mass, we will process to the Grotto for the Rosary and Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament. For transportation info, please contact Teresita Nixon at 604-940-7006. Please bring picnic baskets and chairs. [www.rcav.org/missionpilgrimage/](http://www.rcav.org/missionpilgrimage/)

## MEN'S RETREAT

The Men's Retreat is for every man searching for a deeper relationship with God and a fuller understanding of what it means to live as a son of the Father. Get away from the busyness and demands of our schedules to personally encounter God the Father and experience His generous love. Join us **Sept. 29 to Oct. 1**, at Rockridge Canyon, Princeton, 2000 Willies Ranch Rd. Register today! <http://rcav.org/mensretreat/>



## A LIFELINE FOR MARRIAGES

Retrouaille helps married couples get back to a loving relationship, providing the tools you need to get your marriage back on track. You will rediscover each other and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. This program has helped thousands of couples rekindle

romance, reaffirm their commitment, and stay married, regardless of how far apart they may have drifted. For confidential information or to register for the program in the Lower Mainland commencing the weekend of **October 20 - 22, 2017**, call Marc and Candice at 604-530-6710, email us at: [vancouverbc@retrouaille.org](mailto:vancouverbc@retrouaille.org) or visit our website at: [www.retrouailllevancouver.com](http://www.retrouailllevancouver.com)

## WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019 INFORMATION SESSIONS

World Youth Day is the international event that draws millions of young adults from around the world to encounter the Lord Jesus Christ in a week-long celebration of prayer, music, service and community with the Pope! The next international World Youth Day will take place in Panama City, Panama from January 22-27, 2019 and we want you to experience this amazing pilgrimage of faith! Whether you're a seasoned WYD Leader or someone new to this whole experience, this information session is for you! This session will cover the basics of World Youth Day from what to expect to how to plan a group.

**Sept. 24, from 6-7pm at St. Matthew's Parish, Surrey**  
**Sept. 28, 7-8pm at St. Augustine's Parish, Vancouver**  
 To learn more, visit [rcav.org/wyd](http://rcav.org/wyd)

## LIBRARY HOURS

Open during regular office hours - Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am until 4:30pm. Or drop by after Mass!

**CHURCH LINK: Links those not able to come to church with those who are! Call Joan 604-856-9792 or Jeannine 604-341-1054.**

## Archbishop Miller urges faithful to support those affected by the wildfires

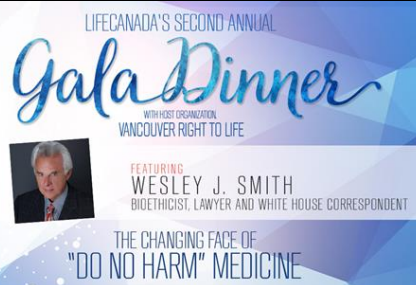
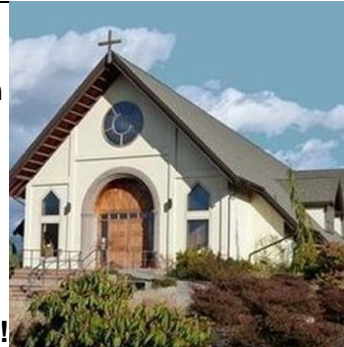
Next weekend there will be a special collection in all parishes in the Archdiocese of Vancouver for those affected by the wildfires. Please pray for everyone affected by the wildfires in our province, especially those in the Dioceses of Kamloops and Prince George. For more info. or to donate online, visit <http://rcav.org/prayer-and-humanitarian-appeals/>



**This Friday, August 11th we will be celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the Dedication of our beautiful church.**

**Join us for Holy Mass at 9am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.**

**Let us give glory, praise and thanksgiving to Our Blessed Lord for all His many benefits!**



LifeCanada Gala 2017 will be held at the gorgeous View on Lonsdale overlooking N. Vancouver **Friday, September 8 5:30-9:30pm** featuring Wesley Smith, award-winning author,

senior fellow at the Discovery Institute's Center on Human Exceptionalism and a consultant to the Patients' Rights Council. Come out and help to support the important work of LifeCanada.

<https://lifecollective.io/lifecanada/events/lifecanada-s-2nd-annual-gala-event>

## FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MADHU

Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Madhu (Sri Lanka) on **Saturday, Aug.12**. St. Matthew's Parish, Surrey. Rosary, prayers start at 7:10pm. Mass begins at 7:30pm. Readings and hymns will be in Sinhala and Tamil. After Mass there will be a potluck dinner and families are encouraged to bring food for fellowship. All are welcome! For more info call Peter Gomez at 604-585-6311.

## COMPENDIUM OF THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

**276. Where does the Eucharist fit in the divine plan of salvation?**

The Eucharist was foreshadowed in the Old Covenant above all in the annual Passover meal celebrated every year by the Jews with unleavened bread to commemorate their hasty, liberating departure from Egypt. Jesus foretold it in His teaching and He instituted it when He celebrated the Last Supper with His apostles in a Passover meal. The Church, faithful to the command of her Lord, "Do this in memory of Me" (1 *Corinthians* 11:24), has always celebrated the Eucharist, especially on Sunday, the day of the Resurrection of Jesus.



# TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

## The Latest Absurd Manifestations of Transgenderism

by Paul Kengor

At Cromwell High School in Connecticut, a 15-year-old boy with a mustache recently crushed female competitors in track and field, to the great dismay of the girls who have spent many intense days training so hard.

This doesn't seem fair, does it? It does in the left's brave new world of fundamental transformation.

The boy, you see, calls himself a girl. That's his self-proclaimed "gender identity." And all's fair in the bizarre universe of modern-day LGBTQ liberalism.

The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference permits students and their schools to decide which teams they can join. The conference is abiding by state and federal laws mandating that students have the ability to compete on sports teams that accord with their public "gender identity." And 15-year-old biological boy, Andraya Yearwood, identifies (at least for now) as a girl. And get this, sports fans: He's only a freshman. He could easily dominate the girls' meets for four years.

Too bad, ladies. You've come a long way, baby, but liberalism's new world is erecting some brand spanking new obstacles to your progress.

So, if your daughter runs track at Cromwell High, she better be able to run faster than a boy. The (real) girl who finished second to Andraya, a junior named Kate Hall, was tearful over her loss. "It's frustrating," Hall said. "But that's just the way it is now. ... I can't really say what I want to say, but there's not much I can do about it." No, there's not. Kate is clearly scared to say what she really wants to say. She doesn't want to be denounced as a "hater," as an intolerant "bigot" toward LGBTQ persons.

As "trans-phobic." Ditto for Hall's coach, Ben Bowne, who's no doubt terrified about saying anything that would bring him the enmity of the nature redefiners at the government school. The coach lamely told the *Hartford Courant*: "Kate was emotional. She works really hard. She's a very competitive athlete. She hates losing to anybody." Yes, poor Kate. Emotional girl.

Her coach continued: "I've just told her all year run your best. If this girl has better times than you, she's going to help you as a runner. That's what we focused on."

Okay, coach. You go right ahead and focus on that.

As for the father of the transgender "girl," he's fully on board the LGBTQ-liberal train. He apparently has been sufficiently indoctrinated into the progressive worldview, and thus is tolerating no objections. He told the *Hartford newspaper*: "If someone says, 'Why is your daughter running with the girls?' I say because she's my *daughter*, much like the reason your daughter is running with the girls." The dad barks: "She's running exactly where she



should be running!" The dad, of course, is merely mimicking the prevailing progressive *zeitgeist*, exhaling the left's *cultursmog*. Note how he cleverly uses all the right liberal language to silence any critics who dare suggest this was an unfair race biased toward his "daughter."

And good for him. The well-coached dad is simply taking a page from the Bible of liberalism, *The New York Times*, which, in a breathtaking February editorial titled, "Welcoming Transgender Boy Scouts," authoritatively stated: "The Boy Scouts are recognizing transgender

boys for what they genuinely are: boys."

Well, okay, liberals. If these are your rules, then let's play by 'em. On your mark, set, go!

So, liberals, if your daughters lose their track meets, or swim meets, or tennis tournaments, or golf tournaments, or whatever other sporting events to inherently stronger biological boys declaring themselves girls - and perhaps lose D-1 scholarships in the process - then suck it up and take one for the liberal team. You've created this monster. And now you can live with it.

Personally, my favorite spectacles have been the transgender *girls* (read: biological boys) who are trouncing biological girls in weightlifting competitions. They do so, hoisting huge barbells over their heads and then hoisting glistening trophies from the winner's platform, as everyone in the room politely stares, mouths agape, terrified to dare raise nary a peep of protest—at the risk of being excoriated for their "hateful" "intolerance." The absurdity is surreal. It's comical. It's like we're watching at an old Monty Python skit, except this is no gag.

Many more such incidents will follow, including at the collegiate level, which should send Title IX academic feminists into fits of whirling rage as college women lose to college men calling themselves "women." (But then again, radical feminists have always told us that a girl can do anything a boy can do, including physically.)

It's less a triumph for this or that transgender *girl* than it is for the insanity that is liberalism/progressivism. It's a gold medal for liberalism, a trophy for the dictatorship of relativism, where everything is redefinable, including one's own definition of one's biological reality, despite what over a trillion chromosomes tell a person his or her gender truly is.

Like communism, liberalism inevitably implodes under the weight of its own unnatural and unsustainable contradictions. And, frankly, sometimes the implosion can be fun to watch. Really, I can't help but cheer on these transgender gals, who are giving liberals a heaping dose of their own medicine.

The madness of progressive ideology is giving birth to these strange beasts, which, in turn, ultimately eat their own. The left is like Saturn. It eats its own children. Enjoy the feast you've prepared, liberals.

*Paul Kengor is Professor of Political Science at Grove City College, executive director of The Center for Vision & Values, and author.*

<http://www.crisismagazine.com/2017/transgender-lunacy>



## 75th anniversary of the Pastoral Letter of the Bishops of the Netherlands on the deportation of the Jewish population

### *Pastoral letter of the Dutch Bishops*

July 20, 1942

*We live in a time of great affliction, both spiritual and material. In recent times two specific afflictions have come to the fore: the persecution of the Jews and the unfortunate lot of those who are sent to work in foreign countries.*

*All of us must become fully aware of these troubles, and for this reason, they are now brought to our attention as a community.*

*These afflictions must also be brought to the attention of those who are responsible for them. To this end, the venerable Dutch Episcopate, in communion with nearly all the churches in the Netherlands, approached the authorities of the occupying forces concerning, among other things, the Jews, in a recent telegram of Saturday, July 11. The telegram stated the following:*

*"The undersigned Dutch churches, already deeply shocked by the actions taken against the Jews in the Netherlands that have excluded them from participating in the normal life of society, have learned with horror of the new measures by which men, women, children, and whole families will be deported to the German territory and its dependencies.*

*"The suffering that this measure will bring upon tens of thousands of people, the knowledge that these measures are contrary to the deepest moral sense of the Dutch people, and, above all, the hostility of these measures against the divine norms of justice and mercy urge the churches to direct to you the urgent petition not to execute these measures.*

*"Our urgent petition to you is also motivated by the consideration that, for the Christian Jews, these measures would make it impossible for them to participate in the life of the Church."*

*As a result of this telegram, one of the General Commissioners, in the name of the Reich's Commissioner [Reichskommissar], promised that Christian Jews will not be deported if they belonged to one of the Christian churches before January 1941.*

*Beloved faithful, when we consider the immense spiritual and physical misery that, for three years already, has threatened the entire world with destruction, then we think naturally of the situation that the Gospel of today [9th Sunday after Pentecost] paints for us:*

*"And when he drew near, seeing the city, he wept over it, saying: If thou also hadst known, and that in this thy day, the things that are to thy peace; but now they are hidden from thy eyes. For the days shall come upon thee, and thy enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and straiten thee on every side, and beat thee flat to the ground, and thy children who are in thee: and they shall not leave in thee a stone upon a stone: because thou hast not known the time of thy visitation." [St. Luke 19, 41-44]*

*Jesus's prediction was literally fulfilled: forty years later, God's judgment over the city of Jerusalem was accomplished. They had not, unfortunately, recognized the time of grace.*

*Now, too, everything around us points to a punishment from God. But, thanks be to God, it is not yet too late for us. We can still avert it if we recognize the time of grace, if we recognize what will bring us peace. And that is only the return to God, from whom for many years already a great portion of the world has turned away. All human means have failed; only God can still bring a solution.*

*Beloved faithful, let us first examine ourselves with a deep sense of repentance and humility. Are we not, after all, partly responsible for the disasters that affect us? Have we always fulfilled the duties of justice and charity toward our neighbor? Have we not sometimes entertained feelings of unholy hatred and bitterness? Have we always sought our refuge in God, our Heavenly Father?*

*When we turn to ourselves, we will have to confess that we have all failed. Peccavimus ante Dominum Deum nostrum: We have sinned before the Lord our God. [Baruch 1,17]*

*We also know, though, that God will not despise a contrite and humbled heart. [Psalm 50, 19] Cor contritum et humiliatum non despicias. We therefore turn to him and beg him with childlike confidence for his mercy. He himself tells us, "Ask, and it shall be given you: seek, and you shall find: knock, and it shall be opened to you." (Luke 11,9)*

*In the Introit of today's Holy Mass [9th Sunday after Pentecost], the Church calls to us with the words of the Psalmist: "For behold God is my helper: and the Lord is the protector of my soul." [Psalm 53,6] And the Epistle repeats the very comforting words of the Apostle: "Let no temptation take hold on you, but such as is human. And God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that which you are able: but will make also with temptation issue, that you may be able to bear it." [1 Cor. 10, 13]*

*Therefore, beloved faithful, let us implore God, through the intercession of the Mother of Mercy, that He will soon grant the world a just peace.*

*May He sustain the people of Israel, who are being so bitterly tested in these days, and may He bring them to true redemption in Jesus Christ.*

*May He protect those whose lot it is to work in foreign lands and to be separated from their loved ones. May He protect them in soul and body, protect them from becoming bitter and discouraged, keep them faithful to the Christian faith, and may God also strengthen those they left behind.*

*Let us implore Him for a solution for all those who are tested and oppressed, for prisoners and hostages, for so many who are threatened by death.*

*Pateant aures misericordiae tuae, Domine, precibus supplicantium: that the ears of your mercy, Lord, may be open to the prayers of those who cry to you.*

*This, our joint pastoral letter, shall be read in the usual manner next Sunday, July 26, during all scheduled Holy Masses in all the churches and chapels in our Church Province that have an appointed rector.*

*Given in Utrecht, the 20th day of July of the Year of Our Lord 1942.*

We are very glad to provide the first online English translation (to our knowledge) of one of the most impressive Catholic documents of the 20th century: the Pastoral Letter of the Dutch Episcopate of July 20, 1942, written by and under the authority of the Archbishop of Utrecht, J. de Jong. It is a very short document, but it is filled with mercy and concern for those who were suffering most harshly under the German occupation of the Netherlands.

The letter would be read from the pulpit of Dutch churches on June 26, 9th Sunday after Pentecost - the same day, it is thought, on which Blessed Titus Brandsma, a main advisor to Archbishop (future Cardinal) de Jong himself and former rector of the Catholic University in Nijmegen, and who had been interned in Dachau, was killed.

The letter, and its public reading, would have grim consequences: even those ethnic Jews who were Catholic and had been protected from deportation, as well as an unknown number of other Dutchmen and refugees in the Netherlands, would be caught in a frightful new wave of persecution by the German forces of occupation, aided by local National Socialist collaborators.

One of the victims, a Silesian-born scholar turned Carmelite nun, Sr. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, would be removed from the Carmel of Echt, near the German border, in the days following the public reading of the letter, and would be killed in Auschwitz shortly afterwards.

As Fr. Peter Gumpel, S.J., wrote for *The Tablet* in 1999, the letter had universal repercussions:

*Originally the leaders of all the Christian Churches in Holland had agreed to make such a public protest, but when the Gestapo were informed, they immediately threatened to deport Jews who had been baptised as Christians, which hitherto had not occurred. The Roman Catholic bishops alone did not give in to this blackmail. The consequences were disastrous: Jews who had joined the Lutheran, the Calvinist, or other Christian Churches were not deported in August 1942, whereas those who had become Catholics were. The Gestapo forced the Dutch newspapers to publish a statement affirming that because of the public protest of the Catholic clergy, Jews who had become Catholics would henceforth be considered our worst enemies and be deported at the earliest opportunity.*

*The action of the Dutch bishops had important repercussions. Pius XII had already prepared the text of a public protest against the persecution of the Jews. Shortly before this text was sent to L'Osservatore Romano, news reached him of the disastrous consequences of the Dutch bishops' initiative. He concluded that public protests, far from alleviating the fate of the Jews, aggravated their persecution and he decided that he could not take the responsibility of his own intervention having similar and probably even much more serious consequences. Therefore he burnt the text he had prepared. The International Red Cross, the nascent World Council of Churches and other Christian Churches were fully aware of such consequences of vehement public protests and, like Pius XII, they wisely avoided them.*

<https://rorate-caeli.blogspot.ca/2017/07/75th-anniversary-of-pastoral-letter-of.html?m=1>



*Intentions of  
Pope Francis*

## **FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST Artists**

We pray that artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.



## Dutch cardinal: Bishops warned of euthanasia's slippery slope



*Catholic News Service*

Dutch Minister of Health Edith Schippers is pictured prior to a 2016 debate in The Hague, Netherlands, about a proposal to legalize assisted suicide for older people who are generally healthy but feel they have led a full life. (CNS photo/Bart Maat, EPA)

Recent increases in euthanasia and assisted suicide deaths among psychiatric and dementia patients reflect the concerns church officials expressed years ago, said a Dutch cardinal. Cardinal Willem Eijk of Utrecht, Netherlands, said psychiatrist Boudewijn Chabot was right to complain that doctors were now ignoring legal requirements that a patient requesting death should be "suffering unbearably and without prospect."

Writing in the NRC Handelsblad daily, Chabot, a pioneer of the Dutch euthanasia law, said he fully favored "self-determination" and was unconcerned about the increase in euthanasia deaths. However, he added that he was alarmed by euthanasia's extension to psychiatric patients, as well as to dementia sufferers, 141 of whom were killed in 2016, compared to just 12 in 2009.

In an Aug. 1 statement to Catholic News Service, Cardinal Eijk, who heads the Dutch bishops' medical ethics commission, said, "Chabot is now complaining about a development he himself initiated."

"Of course, it's good to read that an initiator and early advocate of euthanasia and assisted suicide is now concerned," the cardinal said. "But the Dutch bishops' conference has warned from the beginning against violating the intrinsic dignity of human life through euthanasia or assisted suicide, because it is never ever allowable to violate intrinsic values, and because in doing so you put yourself on a slippery slope.

"But was it not naive, when he started this in the 1990s, to suppose that ending life for psychiatric disorders would remain limited to a few cases only?" the cardinal asked.

The Netherlands became the world's first country to legalize euthanasia and assisted suicide in 2002 and has since witnessed a rapid increase in related deaths, with 20 now occurring daily, according to a May report by the Regional Euthanasia Commission. The report said 6,672 euthanasia deaths had been registered in 2015, compared to just 150 from assisted suicide, while 431 patients had been killed without explicit consent.

Cardinal Eijk said euthanasia had originally been permitted only "at the explicit request of a patient in the terminal stage of an incurable somatic disease," but had been steadily extended and was now accepted "before the terminal stage of life."

"When one breaks the principle that human life is an essential value, one steps on the slippery slope," the cardinal added. "Dutch experiences teach that we will be confronted time and again with the question whether the ending of life shouldn't also be possible with less serious forms of suffering."

In a landmark case in the early 1990s, Chabot was found criminally guilty, but spared punishment, for assisting the

suicide of a 50-year-old healthy woman suffering "existential distress." However, in a January 2017 petition, he and 200 other Dutch doctors warned that legal protections were "slowly breaking down," with many dementia and psychiatric patients being killed "without actual oral consent."

In his NRC Handelsblad article, Chabot accused the official Euthanasia Commission of concealing that "incapacitated people were surreptitiously killed," and said "executions" were now occurring.

In his statement, Cardinal Eijk said "ending life without consent" had been made possible by the 2004 Groningen Protocol, which allows handicapped newborns with conditions such as spina bifida to be killed because of "their perceived future suffering, or that of their parents."

He said a new assisted suicide bill, introduced in 2016, would allow healthy people suffering nonmedical conditions such as "loneliness, bereavement, limited mobility and decline from old age" to be helped to die by a nonprofessional "assistant-in-suicide."

"Our answer to suffering should not be to offer euthanasia or assisted suicide, but adequate, professional and loving palliative care -- of which, from a Christian perspective, pastoral care is an indispensable part," Cardinal Eijk said. "When people suffer unbearably and without prospect from loneliness, a frequent problem in today's present hyper-individualist culture, we should try to change that culture instead of offering suicide to healthy people," he said.

Euthanasia and assisted suicide are also legal in neighboring Belgium and Luxembourg and are deemed "nonpunishable" in Switzerland. Polls suggest most Europeans favor euthanasia laws with safeguards.

<http://www.catholicsentinel.org/Content/News/Nation-and-World/Article/Dutch-cardinal-Bishops-warned-of-euthanasia-s-slippery-slope/2/34/33908>

"You are not happy because you make everything revolve around yourself as if you were always the centre: you have a stomach-ache, or you are tired, or they have said this or that... Have you ever tried thinking about Him, and through Him, about others?"

*Furrow #74, St. Josemaría Escrivá*

"Jesus, help me to simplify my life by learning what you want me to be, and becoming that person."

*St. Therese of Lisieux*

### HYMNS

Entrance	CBW 542 Christ is Made Our Sure Foundation
Offertory	CBW 552: Fairest Lord Jesus
Recessional	CBW 609: Salve Regina
Offertory Antiphon	"Glory and riches are in His house, and His justice remains forever and ever. Alleluia." (Ps. 111:3)
Preface	Preface for the Transfiguration of the Lord, page 495 in the St. Joseph Sunday Missal.

